

Hollywood studio *Magazine*

FEBRUARY 1971/40 CENTS



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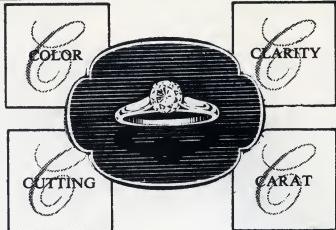
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FEBRUARY 1971

VOLUME 5 NO. 10

OUR COVER — The vivacious Mitzi Gaynor, talented star of stage and screen.



CONTENTS

"FIVE EASY PIECES"	4
Will Karen Black win an Oscar?	
TAKE IT FROM THE TOP	5
Review of the Hollywood Scene	
WHAT'S CABLE TV?	8
Zelda Cini	
MY LIFE WITH MITZI GAYNOR!	10
by Jeannie Hanson	
DISCOURSE ON THE RECORD BIZ	12
HOLLYWOOD VIEW with Bea Colgan	13
WILL PIECES OF DREAM WIN AN OSCAR?	23
LEE GRAHAM TAKES YOU ABOUT TOWN	31

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ANOTHER ACADEMY CONTENDER—

"Five Easy Pieces"



JACK NICHOLSON (Robert Dupa) tries to appease Karen Black (Rayette Dipesto) after a painful argument about his lack of concern for her; in this fragment of a scene from Academy contender, "Five Easy Pieces."

"'Five Easy Pieces,'" has done as much, or more, for Karen Black as "'Easy Rider'" did for Jack Nicholson," is the confident statement of a man who should know, Bob Rafelson, director and co-producer, with Richard Wechsler, of the film for Columbia Pictures, and a partner in the company that produced "'Easy Rider,'" also for Columbia, can only sit back now and wait nervously for what may well become an Academy Award winner.

The story of "'Five Easy Pieces'", is that of a young man running from the sterile, emotionally uninvolving atmosphere of an intellectually straitlaced family, and of his uneducated waitress friend, played by Miss Black.

In the film she is given an opportunity to display a range of emotions seldom offered in a woman's role today. In love with Jack Nicholson, but aware of his emotional inability to return her love, she nevertheless sticks with him, sharing her bed and home in the hope that her love and unstinting devotion will one day

break through his shell of isolation. Her goal is simply love and marriage.

In preparing for her role as a thickly-accented, Oklahoma-born waitress, Karen Black spent several weeks traveling throughout the country and studying the mores and morals of hash house waitresses. She befriended several and lived with them for a number of weeks, soaking up not only speech patterns and work habits but the simplicity and directness of their feelings and thoughts.

Her devotion to this duty is clearly evident in her performance as the tragic figure of a woman whose capacity for love exceeds her capacity to understand the needs and thoughts of the man she so desperately loves.

In "'Five Easy Pieces'" she is "sort of reunited" with Nicholson, although they never met during the filming of "'Easy Rider.'" Miss Black portrayed a New Orleans prostitute in that film, with her scenes being done after Nicholson had

Turn to 26

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Take it from the top

News notes on the Hollywood scene

by Zelda Cini

It's Oscar-time Again

Despite industry-wide doldrums, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences is already racing against the time when that giveaway gold statuette named Oscar takes over the headlines.

Three-time Oscar-winner Saul Chaplin has been named to coproduce, with Robert E. Wise, the 43rd Awards Program at L.A. Music Center, April 15, in NBC's living color.

Preliminary screenings for nominations in five branches — Art Direction, Costume Design, Film Editing, Music and Sound — ended Feb. 1. Nominations in all categories end Feb. 22.

(Incidentally, five branches represent six categories: all of the above, plus cinematography. And, like Gaul, all music is divided into three parts: best original score, best original song score and best song.)

For the uninitiated, this preliminary voting does not represent nomination. It only represents 10 productions in each category from which eligibility for nomination will be determined.

By some curious coincidence "Airport", a George Seaton triumph, heads every list except "best original score", "best original song-score" and "best song".

Do Elmer Bernstein and Bronislau Kaper, cochairmen of the Music Branch Executive Committee, have something against the raucous roar of stranded airplanes?

Have you worried about Robert Young?

With current TV schedules revealed, it now looks like the indestructible Mr. Young might be seen by more than 120 million TV viewers on all three networks in different major shows between March 8 & 10.

That's assuming that people want to watch (a) Robert Young in "Vanished" on NBC, March 8 and 9; (b) Robert Young in "Marcus Welby, M.D." on ABC, March 9, and (c) The Pampers Special, "Robert Young and the Family" on CBS-TV, March 10.

The latter opus, a Bud Yorkin-Norman Lear Tandem Production, directed by

Yorkin, will include costar support from Beau Bridges, Lee Grant, Julie Sommars, Lurene Tuttle, Jack Warden, William Windom and special guest, Dick Van Dyke.

All this Young stuff, coincidentally geared to one week, presupposes you don't forget at least one rerun of "Father Knows Best," which will undoubtedly be airing locally on some channel.

For us aging folk, that seems like an awful lot of emphasis on the Young.



Concerning Lucy Ball

Hot on the heels of the announcement that Lucy, a many-time Emmy winner, will accept the 12th annual Gold Medal Award of the International Radio and TV Society for "achievement in or contribution to broadcasting" in N.Y., March 11, another earthshattering announcement was confirmed. Lucille Ball Productions officially moved Feb. 1 from Paramount studios to Universal, where the company will add some feature films to the continuing schedule of "Here's Lucy" TV segments. Filming on the Lucy series at Universal will start April 12.

Television Law

T V Channels 7 and 28 jumped into the educational field last summer with an accredited course, if you registered with L.A. Community Colleges, in "Law for

the 70's", now being repeated as a Feb. 1 start.

Taught by Donald P. Lydon, practicing attorney and instructor, the course is designed to provide laymen with practical background for legal problems which can involve anybody. Check your TV guide for time.

Rewards where rewards are due

With Oscars and Emmys and the good-Lord-knows-what-else for professional film-making, it's refreshing to note that there's one emerging film festival willing to take a look at what's happening among young amateurs.

In Atlanta, Ga., where there's an annual International Film Festival, (this year it's June 19-26), student films are permitted to compete, along with majors. The 1970 award went to an experimental film called "Omega", the product of UCLA student Donald Fox.

Further, there are no entry fees for student offerings and return postage and insurance are paid by the Festival. Winners get cash grants, along with special awards, and are screened at a symposium of the best-of-the-lot during the week. Closing date for entries is April 15 and should be addressed to J. Hunter Todd, executive director, Atlanta International Film Festival, Drawer 30324, Atlanta, Ga. 30324.

Interestingly enough, here's one judging which includes within its categories feature films, experimental, student films and video tapes, from 36 foreign countries.

Screenings, some of which are open to the public, are held in Symphony Hall of the Atlanta Memorial Arts Center, a \$13 million complex which houses the Atlanta Symphony, High Museum of Art, Alliance Theater and Walter Hill Recital Hall.

New TV Sales Organization

If you're not in the business and you've been wondering how TV shows make it to your viewing screen, you might as well know now that they

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make it through hard-nosed distributing organizations.

Now there's a new one. TV Cinema Sales Corp., to be guided by Jerry Weisfeldt, former head of Winters-Rosen Distribution Corp.

The newly-formed operation is set up for worldwide sales of independently produced TV fare and a few feature-film packages, some of them first-run.



Owen the Samaritan

Funnyman-announcer Gary Owen, who spoofs his own profession on network TV, risked being late for a showbiz commitment to zip off the freeway to use the phone in the office of the Encino C of C. Ostensible reason: a lady out of gas, stranded on the freeway he'd just left.

Sheer coincidence that he knew his way around. He's honorary chairman of the board for the Encino Chamber.

How else would Norma Weintraub know about it?

Industrial Film-Making

Now it's the Golden Decade Awards, an innovation of the U.S. Industrial Film Festival, which headquarters in Chicago.

These awards will be presented to the 10 outstanding industrial films produced during the 1960's, according to chairman J. W. Anderson. A one-time event, competition here is open only to films previously honored in a generally recognized film festival.

This year, too, entries are limited to 16mm industrial films and 35mm filmstrips, thus assuring the business-film producer that the focal point will be on production, not features, experimental films, or tv commercials, as is the case in many festivals.

Entries for competition must be at festival headquarters before March 1 and may fit into any of 24 categories, including such topical areas as conservation, ecology and pollution.

For entry forms, write to U.S. Industrial Film Festival, Suite 216, 101 East Grand Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611.

Metromedia gets new vp

Phil vonLadua, onetime media research director for Carson/Roberts ad agency, has been named vice president of the broadcasting group of Metromedia TV after nearly a year as director of research for the same company. Not much change in duties, since he has been supervising all research activities for the same division since joining the company in 1969.

On the acquisition trail

The gap between major film-making and tv gets narrower all the time.

Columbia Pictures Industries Inc. has now bought New Jersey TV Broadcasting Corp., licensee of Channel 47, WNJU-TV, servicing the Spanish-speaking community in the Metropolitan New York area.

The take-over wasn't easy. It was affected through a merger of Screen Gems Broadcasting of Louisiana, Inc., and Screen Gems Broadcasting of Utah, Inc., both subsidiaries of Columbia Pictures, into the New Jersey TV Broadcasting Corp.

The whole picture becomes more understandable with the realization that Screen Gems of Louisiana is the licensee of Channel 8, WVUE, in New Orleans, and Screen Gems of Utah is the licensee of Channel 4, KCPX-TV, and KCPX AM/FM Radio, Salt Lake.

Add to that the fact that Columbia has, for the past eight years, owned and operated WAPA-TV/Channel 4) of San Juan, Puerto Rico, as a subsidiary company.

From Channel 47, the new owners figure that their Spanish-language telecasts will reach approximately 2,000,000 Spanish-speaking people in 500,000 households in the metropolitan area of New York alone.

How many of these households depend on CATV for reception?

Burgeoning CATV

Now even the people who created Teen Age Fair are invading the CATV field.

Latest dispatch is from Al Burton, president of Youth Marketing Inc. and its "Fair" subsidiary. He's formed a separate corporation, called The Center for Communications, to chase down a variety of projects for cable television.

His projects started with the first annual CATV Advertising/Programming Seminar at the Ambassador Hotel, with Turn to 12

February Release

for Disney's

The Wild Country



© 1970 Walt Disney Productions



The screen has a momentous dramatic adventure in Walt Disney Productions' "The Wild Country," a rugged story of that indomitable American spirit that conquered the West and helped develop a nation. It follows the exciting exploits of a pioneer family's move into the wilderness to begin a new life, against the

greatest odds.

For complete authenticity in keeping with the locale as set down in the script, the movie was filmed almost in its entirety in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, where the towering and jagged Grand Tetons provided a stunning and spectacular background.



FAMILY FARE FOR REAL — and for fancy as well. Clint, Rance, Ronny and Jean Howard, all of Burbank, and all as performers in Disney's "Wild Country" on location in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.



WILD MARE . . . Mountainman Thompson (JACK ELAM) and frontier newcomer Virgil Tanner (RONNY HOWARD) restrain a horse they are breaking in after it has thrown their Indian friend Two Dog (FRANK deKOVA).



FRIGHTENING TIMES . . . Newly arrived from Pittsburgh, Jim and Kate Tanner (VERA MILES and STEVE FOREST) encounter some startling happenings on their ranch in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, in this scene from Walt Disney Productions' frontier adventure, "The Wild Country," starring Forrest, Miss Miles, Jack Elam and Ronny Howard, co-starring Frank deKova, Morgan Woodward and featuring Clint Howard. In color by Technicolor, "The Wild Country" was directed by Robert Totten and produced by Ron Miller from a script by Calvin Clements, Jr. and Paul Savage, based on a book by Ralph Moody. Buena Vista releases.



Giant antenna, set high above any possibility of interference, transmits the TV signals which give you perfect reception on all 12 channels of your dial, once your set is hooked up to cable.

Some Elementary Information about **Cable (CATV) Television**

By Zelda Cini

If you're even a casual television viewer, you're already aware that the era of cable television is upon us. As an average television viewer, your interest probably stops there, unless your expensive TV set delivers only a few channels, or your TV reception is pretty consistently lousy.

Don't blame your TV set. It's probably in good shape. What's wrong, if you really want to know, is your antenna, coupled with the area in which you live.

So, if you're one of the lucky ones living in an area where cable has already been installed, you're a noodlehead if you don't subscribe to the nearest cable service. The cost is less per month than your telephone. Cable comes into your house the same way your telephone wires do. It may even come off the same pole. But there the resemblance ends.

Once your TV set is hooked up to cable, down comes your ugly rooftop antenna. You don't need it. And up comes television reception, clear, trouble-free, always perfectly fine-tuned — all 12 channels on your dial — the commercial VHF channels and most of the UHFs, even if your present set makes

no provisions for UHF.

So far, so good.

But what, for heaven's sake, is CATV?

Well, to start with, it's "Community Antenna TeleVision", now beginning to emerge simply as "cable".

Its purpose is to bring to subscribers the best possible quality of television signal for viewing on their own at-home sets.

To approach the problem backwards, this is accomplished by erecting a master antenna in an optimum location, equipping it with signal-processing electronics at the site, setting up amplifiers to maintain the strength of the signal, and adding coaxial cable to carry the signal from the master antenna into your home. Last step is plugging it into the back of your TV set where your present antenna attaches.

Outside your home, the cable is either strung on utility poles (through so-called "pole lease" arrangements with the phone companies) or buried underground, along with other "utility" wires.

So, assuming you're interested in subscribing to cable, what does it cost?

That depends. It depends on a lot of

things, not the least of which is what kind of financial arrangement was intrinsic in the cable company's franchise agreement with the city in which the cable system exists.

Every cable system is franchised within its area and every city reaps financial benefit from each installation.

In some areas, the agreement breaks down to a mere \$5 a month. In others, it goes up to \$6.95, or more. But your monthly rental is rarely more than the base price you pay for a telephone and, like a telephone extension, you pay \$1 per month extra for an extra outlet, if you hook up to more than one tv set.

Original installation costs may also vary, for a number of reasons. Some cable companies "introduce" cable to an area with a special no-installation charge and the first month's subscription free. Others are at the mercy of the price pre-set by the terms of the franchise agreement.

For Theta Cable, which covers a major portion of Los Angeles, the cost is \$19.50. It's exactly the same for National Transvideo in the San Fernando Valley areas covered by that cable company. In Glendale and Burbank, installation fees

are contingent on the agreement National Transvideo made with those cities.

And the monthly subscription fees are similarly affected. In those areas, unless you're lucky enough to latch on to a "free introductory offer", installation is \$12.50.

Now, let's take a look at what your cable-subscription money buys today — and what it's likely to buy in the very immediate future, like right after April 1.

April 1 is the date arbitrarily set by the Federal Communications Commission requiring cable systems with more than 3500 subscribers to initiate what the FCC chooses to call "local origination".

This is interpreted to mean that some of the specific television-viewing desires of the public will finally be met. One channel on your dial (possibly 6) will begin to transmit programs of local interest. Genuinely local — activities which actually take place within the limited area covered by each cable system.

Early emphasis will probably be on local sports, high school and college, but that does not rule out potential coverage of city council meetings, PTA, school board, discussion panels, educational courses and, very likely, special interest educational films, including foreign language, all telecast on a "local" basis, for local audiences.

Commercials may or may not enter these new pictures. Actually, advertising isn't all that important when you consider that the subscription rate for cable itself may very well cover the cost of cablecasting.

Along with this new concept in television fare, there's one other knotty problem still to be solved.

Essentially, cable television is "closed circuit". This alone may open a can of worms, coupled with the fact that there are already "tuner" attachments available (you'll rent those too, for probably \$1 a month) which can provide your existing TV set with, for instance, 17 additional channels!

What's to prevent the local cablecaster from giving you beautiful coverage of home games otherwise blacked out on commercial TV?

Some attempt at control is sure to get under way, but even that is nebulous at the moment.

Companies like National Transvideo are already committed to innovative children's shows, which include child-participation at home, and to other types of participating shows like Cable TV Bingo, which has been enormously successful in cable-dependent communities throughout the south and southwest.

Theta Cable expects to draw on UCLA and Cal-Tech for fresh program origination — and Theta already has that 9'-extra-channels tuner. (Theta is related to Hughes, you know)

By the way, CATV is absolutely not Pay-TV.

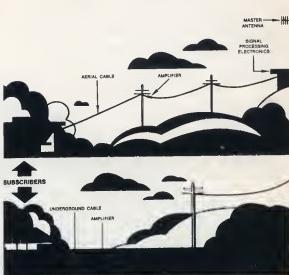
Pay-TV charges for programs, per program. CATV simply charges a subscription-fee for its services — and those services are myriad, including radio-equipped maintenance trucks, just in case the problems of fire, flood, and other "unforeseen" which often plague your phone system don't plague your television reception via cable.

One more cursory look at what Cable TV represents to your community: it represents a mighty big investment. Millions, in actual fact.

Cost of setting up a cable system above ground in almost any area averages out at about \$10,000 per mile. Below ground, average investment is closer to \$25,000 per mile, even with the plus of sharing shallow trenches with lights, power, and phone lines.

Cable is coming into its own because mountains, hills and hi-rises block the transmission of signals. TV signals travel

A CATV SYSTEM



in almost-straight lines. A new apartment-building next door to you and whammo, you've lost your TV reception. Not so with cable.

If you're a cable subscriber, the only way you can lose good reception is to forget to pay your subscription fee — or one of those natural disasters peculiar to mountain and canyon areas has struck. In that case, call the company and yell a lot. ***



Cable itself, wired into your home like your telephone from the nearest telephone pole or from underground installations, plugs neatly into the back of your TV set. Never again do you need rooftop antennas or "rabbit ears."

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"My Life with

Mitzi Gaynor entered my life with a burst of energy, charm and personality.

We first met during her engagement at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas in 1967. Having been thoroughly captivated by her talent and looks as a performer, I was subsequently captivated by her warmth as a human being.

Following our brief meeting, our paths did not cross again until some six months later when we were both at the same party. I was delighted to see her and I was once again smitten by Miss Gaynor when she remembered my name. Our second meeting began what I like to think of as my "love affair" with Mitzi Gaynor.

She has, on several occasions, gone out of her way to include me in some of her less personal activities. For example: When Mitzie gave a surprise party for her husband, Jack Bean, she recruited my assistance to find what a successful, good natured and devoted husband would like most on his birthday. We then began a three week search of Beverly Hills, Pasadena and Los Angeles.

We were unsuccessful in turning up any earth-shattering trinket for Mr. Bean. Mitzi and I then scoured the greater Southern California coast for something of value. Remembering Jack's penchant for old bottles, Mitzi and I collected, over a three-week period, more than fifty bottles of every shape, size and color imaginable.

We washed and polished these bottles, laughing the whole time, while Mitzi lovingly packaged each one separately. Needless to say, the gift was greatly appreciated and received.

To thank me for my efforts and my frazzled nerves and much used gas credit card, Mitzi sent me one large glass container filled with Excedrin, Alka-Seltzer and Compoz, and a gift certificate for 30 gallons of gas at any gas station of my choice.

I have been endeared to Mitzi Gaynor ever since.

If there is one single element responsible for Mitzi's affect on her public, both professionally and personally, it's her desire to please.

She has never forgotten a favor, a

birthday, anniversary or special occasion. And she has never remembered them with conventional gifts or momentos. Mitzi has a computer's accuracy for dates, casual remarks she has heard and will pick up on any hint from her acquaintances as to their special likes or dislikes.

For example, I had mentioned in one of our conversations that I had always wanted to have someone catalogue my rather extensive record collection so that I could just reach out and pick my favorite album without having to sort through mountains of LPs. For my birthday two years ago, a bright looking college student arrived at my door, with pen in hand and commenced the

monumental task of sorting through my records, neatly recording them in a ledger and placing them in a cabinet which arrived simultaneously.

I treasure that gift more than any other I received. Once a year, the young man comes to my door and we update the collection.

I have to thoroughly agree with director Joshua Logan who declared after Mitzi's performance in "South Pacific," "Mitzi Gaynor can do more things better than anyone in Hollywood."

I have witnessed her performances in every major entertainment field, from Las Vegas and Lake Tahoe, to Chicago and New York. My television set has been

Dirty movies didn't make it big

If, in all this hoopla about award winners and "big grossers" you've been wondering about "X" rated films and how they stack up against "family" shows, you may be encouraged to learn that none of them is in the top money-making 10.

Instead, according to a list compiled by Variety, "Airport" is thus far the top money-maker, grossing \$37.6 million between last March's release and the end of 1970. "Hello, Dolly", to the surprise of many, came next, but it's only a measly \$13 million — and it's been running since Jan. 1970.

Proceeding down the list, there's "Patton", "Cactus Flower," "On 'er Majesty's Secret Service," a James Bond film, and "The Reivers", starring Steve McQueen.

All of these were GP rated.

Bringing up the rear, domestically, at least, are "M*A*S*H," "Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice," "Woodstock" and "Catch 22."

Way down the list of grossers — "Beyond the Valley of the Dolls," "What Do You Say To A Naked Lady," and "Myra Breckenridge," all of which cost a bundle to make.

Big new contender, for money-making at least — "Love Story", as sentimental a piece of melodrama as anybody from the 30's could wish to see, but loved, it would seem, equally well by young and old.

You figure this business. Hopefully, if you don't dig it, just take it from the top, once more.

something:

TAKE IT FROM THE TOP

Continued from 6

CBS-TV's Walter Cronkite as keynoter.

Next comes the announcement that The Center will own and operate CATV systems in the western U.S., with current involvement in trying to acquire three systems in California (cities unnamed). According to Burton's pressagent, The Center recently completed an extensive CATV market analysis for The Whittaker Corporation (NYSE) through its industrial research division.



FESTIVE 'ARISTOCRATS' PREMIERE
Among those attending were Charlton Heston, his daughter Holly Ann and Allison Kay daughter of Mrs. Richard Kay of Beverly Hills.

afraid to give — a combination which equals artistry.

I have watched Mitzi rehearse a song for three days until it was exactly as the director wanted it. When many performers would have been content after a few takes, Mitzi energetically pursues her goal to perfection.

"Perfection" is Mitzi's byword. She tries to attain that level in her every endeavor. Whether it be in an arrangement of a song, a dance step in her act, her make-up and costumes, or in her home, friends and hospitality.

She's grateful that through the media of entertainment she has been afforded the opportunity for self-expression.

It is that expression of herself that reaches out to an audience to completely

DISCourse

by John R. Packer & Mellette

It's been 6 months since Elton John captured the attention of L.A. rock fans with his debut performance at the Troubadour. Rock critics were unanimous in their praise of this phenomenal new group from England. Thus far, all predictions have been surpassed. John's first official U.S. tour in December followed the enormous success of his first American L.P., "Elton John." His new album "Tumbleweed Connection," released last month, has already set sales records across the country.

While in Los Angeles we talked to Elton, lyricist Bernie Taupin and John's two tour musicians Dee Murray and Nigel Olsson. The following are some highlights from their first press conference held at Universal Studios.

Q. Do you have a favorite in rock?

E.J. "I suppose I started off with Elvis, Bill Haley and Little Richard. I haven't any one favorite artist at all ... yet my idol is Leon Russell — that's the person I look up to most.

Photos by John R. Packer

"To me all music is music to be enjoyed"

I enjoy playing with Leon any time. I'd like to play with him 356 nights a year."

Q. Do you think 1970 has been a "bomb" musically?

E.J. "No! Rubbish! When you've got people like James Taylor, Leon Russell and Mad Dogs and Englishmen going on tour ... Listen, there are so many good things going on musically, it's just that there's a lull, and the only reason there's a lull is because there are no new young musicians. The only people making it are 25 and 30. What we need are young musicians 17 and 18 playing their guitars and causing a bit of excitement. Where are they?"

Q. Who's your favorite contemporary pianist?

E.J. "Leon Russell!"

Q. What is your song writing process?

E.J. "He (Bernie Taupin) writes the lyrics and gives them to me and I put them on the piano. Then when I feel like writing a song I sort through them. We don't collaborate."

Q. Have you been asked to score any movies?

E.J. "Yes, Bernie and I recently

completed our first motion picture score, "Friends," a Paramount picture."

Q. How did you come to team up with bassist Dee Murray and drummer Nigel Olsson?

E.J. "I've known Dee and Nigel for a long time and they were associated with the same office as mine in London. They weren't doing anything at the time and I was really being badgered into getting a group together. So the first people I thought of were Dee and Nigel. I didn't want four people in the group, I only wanted three and it's really worked out. We're a very happy group."

Q. How did you come to decide on your crazy style of dress for performances?

E.J. "Oh, I see, why I wear a cape as opposed to dirty denims and a T-shirt? Well, that's part of the fun. I'm always hunting around for something outrageous to wear. I came on stage one night at the Troubadour with Mickey Mouse ears and sang "Your Song." They couldn't believe it. The thing is you can't take yourself too seriously. Just be natural and have a laugh."

"But some of our songs are very happy"



"We're a very happy group"

Q. Can you play any other instrument?

E.J. "I once played an organ for a soul group but I was really bad. I can only play the piano."

(Note: Elton John first started playing classical piano when he was five years old.)

Q. Is there any particular mood that influences your writing, Bernie?

B.T. "The thing with our songs is they go through different periods of feeling. A lot of songs can have a very sad feeling and a lot of songs can be very happy. The album that is out now (Elton John) has a sad feeling to it, kind of desperate situations. The album coming out (Tumbleweed Connection) has a much more happy, down home feeling. It's just the way we go around writing songs. Some of them can be up, and some can be down."

E.J. "What we're trying to strive for is simplicity in lyrics and simplicity in songs. Just get it as simple as possible."

Q. What do you think of the Beatles as an influence?

E.J. "The Beatles had a fantastic influence on everyone's life. George

(left to right) Bernie Taupin (lyricist), Elton John (vocals and piano), Dee Murray (base), and Nigel Olsson (drums)



Harrison has emerged as probably a better song writer than Lennon and McCartney."

Q. Have you always wanted to sing?

E.J. "Yes, but nobody would let me. If you sing your own songs, it gives you a real satisfying feeling."

Q. Is there anything else you would have liked to have done with your life?

E.J. "I would like to have been a

professional footballer but I was too fat."

What's Happening?

The rumored title for Leon Russell's new album is "Accident." He will be touring England in the early part of February.

Q. What are the future aspirations of the group?

Dee "I'm just going to buy a Corvette and a recording studio. I've got an album planned when I go home that I hope to start recording if I have time."

Nigel "I just finished a new album on UNI. I sing and do everything on it. I would like to produce eventually."

E.J. "I really think the band has to be as important as me. It's nice they have a future and not just Elton John and two backing guys."

Joe Cocker is in London taking a rest after working on a new album with Chris Stainton in Muscle Shoals, Alabama. So far, all the songs on the album are his own compositions.

Steppenwolf are in the studios working on their new album. In between cuts, the boys are busy working numerous L.A. and San Francisco gigs.

The Doors are dormant . . . Their last album release was "13", not such a lucky number.

Dave Mason, who has the most colorful album in town, just paired up with Mama Cass for a new album titled "Mason-Cass." They are appearing in

Turn to 30

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Dining & Doings

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I'm sad to report that the fine restaurant, Chateau Gino, located in Woodland Hills just across from Fallbrook at Victory and Fallbrook, was sold or taken over by a stock exchange just as it was getting off the ground. Gino Tasca, the youthful owner-host whom we had written up in last year's Dining & Doings will report his whereabouts when he gets settled in a new restaurant, but meantime, we welcome the folk who took over, owners of The Cattle Baron restaurant, member of a fast-growing, popular chain who feature beef 'n entertainment. Understand they have dinner dancing nightly from 8:30 P.M. and, that personable Menty Field is the night mgr. and bartender while pretty Sue Kerr, who was also hostess for Gino has stayed on and manages daytime luncheon activities of The Cattle Baron.

Also new in Tarzana is The Gourmet Room and Steakhouse, 19100 Ventura



Gloria Price, beautiful star of television and motion pictures, takes a moment out to enjoy a Suntory Royal cocktail in the relaxing atmosphere of the new Benihana of Tokyo restaurant, 16226 Ventura Blvd., Encino. Welcoming Gloria is Benihana's amiable manager, Henry Watanabe, right. Gloria, a resident of Van Nuys, is a frequent patron of Benihana's, where she often enjoys the superb taste of Suntory cocktails served up by bartender Jerry Seki.

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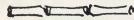
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Gourmet Circuit-2

Bld. which boasts a little theatre adjacent and upstairs. We hear there is an excellent group of entertainers putting on a blackout Las Vegas type review show on Fri., Sat. and Sunday nights entitled the Magnificent Seven Plus One. The principals who star in, direct and produce are funnyman, Harvey Levine late of M.A.S.H., Eddie Baker, seen many times by Doris Day's t-viewers, and Jerry Kurland of the famous Dunhills and many top Broadway shows. Pretty Las Vegas showgirls are in the clever skits, too. Res. 881-7950. Price of admission is included in buffet, all-you-can-eat dinner from 7:30 for \$7.95. Showtime at 9 P.M. Second show at 11 P.M. with two drink minimum.

■ Blimey! Yoicks and what ho! Hear tell we have a bit of jolly olde England in Thousand Oaks. The world is getting smaller and smaller. It's the charming Farmhouse English restaurant at the lucky number of 711 Thousand Oaks Blvd. These pleasant folk serve luncheon 11:30 until 2 P.M. and dinner 6:30 until 10 P.M.

If your lunchtime has become a bore, why not sample some of the Farmhouse's authentic and tempting English specials such as Steak and Kidney Pie, Chicken and Mushroom Pie, Shepherd Pie plus traditional Fish 'N Chips. Entrees are served with salad, English chips and peas plus Farmhouse's own freshly baked bread!

For din-din, we like the Farmhouse Duck soup (delicious) and Roast Beef with Yorkshire pudding at \$4.50. Other entree we've found exciting is Roast Duckling with English style stuffing spiced with sage and onion plus fresh apple sauce — this at \$5.50. A sweet Japanese curry with prawns, chicken or beef is a welcome change in diet plus rich and fruity side dishes served with this along side fluffy rice. Roast lamb is done nicely, too, in the Farmhouse and served with a delicious mint sauce. The foregoing three are special dinners and must be ordered 24 hours in advance.

Regular dinner menu features the aforementioned Duck soup, choice of greens and dressing from the salad bar; roast beef, steak and kidney pie, chicken and mushroom pie all served with roast potato or English chips, fresh vegetables and for dessert, English trifle or cheese and biscuits with fresh fruit! Luncheon \$1.50 and dinners from \$3.25. Try Farmhouse English Restaurant soon reservations 495-9148.

■ Chatted with top PR and old friend, Fred Russell who now makes his office base Newport Beach (in addition to his home, too) instead of Century City.

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Checking out one of his accounts, Meet and Chandon to discover it starred in a recent gala French champagne degustation (look it up, diners and doers!) at The Tower Restaurant, downtown L.A. degustibus non est disputandum!

Wally Branch, that entrepreneur of the unusual "What Am I?" contest and originator of the Hard Times Nights, announces a new antique culinary item is on view for "What Am I?" contestants.

He also is so pleased with great success of previous Hard Times Nights that another will be staged February 2nd. These strictly-for-fun poverty night parties feature music by a Dixieland Band, a contest to determine who is dressed in the shabbiest clothes and a beef stew dinner for only fifty cents! Located at 3820 Riverside Dr., The Yankee Pedlar is open Monday through Friday from 11:30 for luncheon — dinner and Saturdays from 4 P.M. to 2 A.M.

If your "taster" is tepid these days, why not spice it up a bit with luncheon or dinner in the fiesta atmosphere of Dolly and Carlos Ruiz colorful Casa de Carlos at 22901 Ventura Blvd., Woodland Hills.

The Mexican specialties served here are muchos delicioso and we can heartily recommend the Casa de Carlos dinner special — Enchiladas Rancheras made with corn tortillas, rolled then stuffed with cheese and smothered with Spanish sauce, garnished with green peppers, onions, olive Sour Cream and Guacamole! Preface your feast with a Casa de Carlos mucho grande Margarita or ice cold Carta

Turn to Page 6



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ON FILM

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I NEVER SANG FOR MY FATHER — Mother dies, but that doesn't sever all the apron strings, and a frustrated son looks to his future life with father, whom he hates. Low-key, sensitive and very realistic showings by Melvyn Douglas, Gene Hackman and Estelle Parsons.

LITTLE BIG MAN — A huge, often very funny epic of the Old West, as told by a 120-year old Indian who lived through it all. The fine elements of this film, perfectly brought together by director Arthur Penn, is one of today's top movies. Dustin Hoffman is Little Big Man and his performance is of super-man proportions. In support are a group of nicely done characterizations, particularly by Chief Dan George as a wise tribal leader.

LOVE STORY — Take a beautiful heroine, a clean-cut hero, put them in a touching, tragic plot, and what've you got? The new Kleenex Derby winner! Ali MacGraw and Ryan O'Neal are perfect in this slick soap opera, devised for the big screen by Erich Segal, whose short novel by the same title aroused world-wide acclaim. The film will do no less.

MY FAIR LADY — A most welcome return visit! 1964's Best Picture (it also won Oscars for Rex Harrison, director George Cukor and five others) comes back fresh, colorful and flowery as ever. Harrison and Audrey Hepburn spin off musical magic as the patient linguist who "civilises" a Cockney guttersnipe.



THE GREAT WHITE HOPE — James Earl Ray and Jan Alexander as a Negro boxing champion and his white lover . . . against the world. The stars, repeating their stage roles, have made an excellent transition from the boards to the soundstage. Beah Richards is fabulous in a small role as the boxer's mother, as usual, she leaves you wanting more.

ON STAGE

ABELARD AND HELOISE — Ronald Millar's London hit in its American premiere, with original stars Diana Rigg and Keith Michell as the famous lovers. Presented by Center Theatre Group through the 27th. At the Ahmanson.

LIGHT UP THE SKY — You have just a week to catch this bright new version of Moss Hart's comedy. Stars Anne Baxter, Kitty Carlisle, Don DeFore, Sam Levene, Kay Medford, Russell Nype and Martha Scott. At the Huntington Hartford.

PLAY IT AGAIN, SAM — Opens on the 8th at the Huntington Hartford. Award-winner Red Buttons stars in Woody Allen's Broadway comedy hit.



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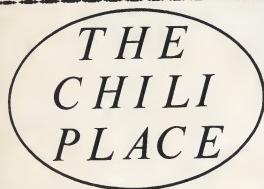
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Noted screen writer, Milton Krim (center), seems to be "telling a tall one" to pretty wife, Shirley (2nd from right), lovely Cris Forrest (far left) and her handsome film-tv star husband, Steve Forrest (r) at a recent party in The Cattle Baron, Woodland Hills.

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Dining & Doings

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

Blanca Mexican beer!

We recently revisited the Inca, only authentic Peruvian restaurant in greater Los Angeles and Valley, and found it to be just as much fun and with great food, as ever! Hop over the hill on Ventura Freeway, get off at Highland, down to Beverly then left to Berendo — Inca is at 301 N. Berendo, a small neighborhood house converted into a restaurant.

We again enjoyed Inca's famed Pisco sour, practically the national brew of Peru. Our host, Gabriel Garcia-Medoz



Handsome maitre d' Federico Fichtel of Alberto's Italian Restaurant suggests a before dinner cocktail of Suntory Whisky to lovely Valleyite Inge Jaklin, Miss Jaklin, actress who recently appeared on TV's "Hogan's Heroes" is but one of the many celebrities who frequent this new "in" dining spot, located on Melrose Avenue between Doheny and Robertson in Los Angeles.

ordered the appetizing Ceviche and although the peppers in it are hot, it is so tasty one can't resist! We also asked again for the Huancaina's potatoes in a special cheese sauce, named for the city of Huancaya, high in the Andes of Peru where this sauce was first concocted centuries ago.

The Inca is open for luncheon or dinner — lunch from 11 A.M. with Peruvian fabrics and styles of Ofelia featured Monday nights from 7:30 P.M. and music of Trio Les Incas on Friday and Saturday with a charming Latin American gentleman, Rafael Gama, entertaining at the piano on Monday and Wednesday nights. *** Ole, and away!

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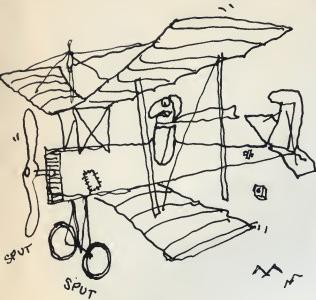
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When it comes to dreaming a little, lyricists Marilyn and Alan Bergman are realistic enough to know that their big dream for "Pieces of Dreams" will have to come from a bundle of ballots. And the ballots themselves have to come from a whole bundle of members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Briefly, what the Bergmans really want, almost to the exclusion of anything else this season, is a small gold statue named Oscar. And they want him for a song, a real one which they wrote with Michael Legrand. The title? "Pieces of Dreams."

It wouldn't be the first time they won an Oscar.

In 1969 they won an Oscar for their song (again written with Legrand), "The Windmills Of Your Mind." Earlier this year they were nominated for an Oscar

for their "What Are You Doing The Rest Of Your Life?" (again with Legrand) from the movie "The Happy Ending."

The Bergmans are that rarity of all rarities — a husband-and-wife lyric writing team. They are probably the most successful married team of lyricists in music history.

They were born at the same hospital in Brooklyn, New York, but met for the first time in California as a result of a "happy" accident.

Alan was a television director who had come from CBS-TV in Philadelphia. He met Johnny Mercer who listened to Alan's songs and liked them enough to encourage him to pursue a song-writing career.

In the meantime Marilyn had injured herself in an accident and had come to California while recuperating.

A friend from New York suggested

songwriting as a good way for her to relax while her shoulder mended.

Since she had always loved music and poetry it was exactly the right prescription.

Marilyn and Alan met at a songwriting workshop, at which Marilyn was assigned to criticize Alan's work, while Alan was assigned to criticize hers.

With her encouragement Alan soon realized he was better at writing words than music, and teamed up with Marilyn. They shortly found as much work as they could handle. They subsequently married in 1958 and their daughter Julie was born 2 years later.

They lyricized "Yellow Bird" for the Norman Luboff Choir's album "Songs of the Caribbean," and that song has since become a standard with over 100 recordings.

Other successes followed quickly... "Nice 'N Easy" written for Frank Sinatra and the title song of his best selling album of the same name; "That Face", written for a Fred Astaire TV special, and "Make Me Rainbows", from the motion picture "Fitzwilly", recorded by Nancy Wilson, Vic Damone and many other top vocalists.

In 1967 the Bergmans together with Quincy Jones wrote the prize-winning song of the 1967 International Song Festival of Rio de Janiero, "The World Goes On".

They next wrote several successful songs for Sergio Mendes, including the lyrics to the throbbing title tune of his album "Look Around", which climbed to the top of the charts.

A request for a "Peace Song" by Barbra Streisand was the inspiration for their song, "One Day", introduced by Miss Streisand at Lincoln Center in New York and included in her album, "What About Today?"

The Bergmans have managed to avoid both the overly sentimental, saccahrine ballads and incomprehensible abstract rock, finding a comfortable niche in-between that seems to please a lot of people, both young and old. Neither will take credit for a particular lyric idea. They insist they play an equal role in everything they write. ***

Madrid, Spain — When a dozen camels proved too unruly each morning to be used in scenes for "The Horsemen," locationing here for Columbia Pictures, director John Frankenheimer, with an eye to lost time, discussed the matter with camel handler and came up with the solution. All the beasts needed to calm down, after being penned up all night, was a 30-minute walk — half-mile down the road and back again.

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TALENTED TRIO — Sally Kellerman, producer Lou Adler and actress Jennifer Salt, smile for the cameras at the premiere-benefit of Robert Altman's newest film BREWSTER McCLOUD at the Houston Astrodome.

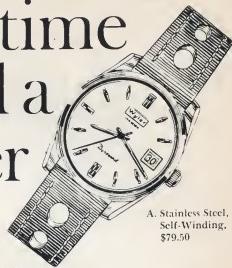
"BREWSTER McCLOUD" PREMIERE

LOU ADLER — Greets actress Sally Kellerman at the Houston International Airport.

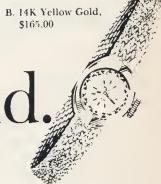


CELEBRITY CROWD — Actor Bud Cort (left) and actress Sally Kellerman talk about their newest feature film BREWSTER McCLOUD before the opening of the film at the Houston Astrodome for a premiere audience of 24,000.

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BON VOYAGE



LIKE COALS TO NEWCASTLE — Florida lions, three of a total of seven, were flown to Africa for starring roles in "Living Free," sequel to the successful "Born Free" of a few years ago. Due to be filmed by executive producer Carl Foreman and producer Paul Radin for Columbia Pictures.

"FIVE EASY PIECES"

Continued from 4

completed his role. Following "Five Easy Pieces," Miss Black was immediately signed by BBS Productions to star in "Drive, He Said" for Columbia. Again she is reunited with Nicholson, but the latter this time as the film's director rather than star.

While she may be a newcomer to motion pictures, Miss Black is not lacking in theatrical experience. She has appeared in a number of Broadway plays, including "Playroom," for which she was nominated by the New York Drama Critics as Best Actress of the Season. The play itself was a flop, lasting for only one month. But this did not detract from the critics appreciation of her excellent performance. ***

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HOLLYWOOD VIEW

By Bea Colgan

With the holidays behind us and our New Year's resolutions already broken, we can all relax and begin to ponder the outcome of the annual Academy Awards. With so many good films in contention this year, the outcome probably even has Jeanne Dixon baffled. Our own pet picks (or should we say "hopes"?) are "Five Easy Pieces" for best picture; Karen Black, best supporting actress for her role in same; and Melvyn Douglas, best actor for his role in "I Never Sang For My Father."

CHARLTON HESTON is so keen on Douglas' performance in "Father" that he hosted a gorgeous soire in Douglas' honor at the Bistro. Of course we can't overlook George C. Scott in "Patton," Alec Guinness in "Cromwell," Robert Mitchum in "Ryan's Daughter," etc., etc. Help, Jeanne!

GIRLS FRIDAY of Show Business' big event this month is election of officers for the 1971-72 term. These "Bizzy" girls are already hard at work on plans for their annual charity dinner-dance June 5 at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel.

HYPNOTIST GINGER COURT'S flack is reportedly fidgeting over Ginger's recent numerology reading. Numerologists maintain you can actually influence your daily living by spelling your name so it works out numerologically to your best advantage. Still with us? As a result, Ginger will henceforth be known as Gingger Cortel. Speaking of Gingger, she and Hugh Lynn Cayce, son of famed psychic Edgar Cayce, made for an interesting evening of watching on "The Virginia Graham Show" last month. Gingger will be appearing at the Playboy Club in San Francisco for two weeks beginning February 15. This marks her fifth appearance there. No, she is not taking Hugh Lynn Cayce with her.

HERB WALLERSTEIN, the last messenger to be hired by Columbia Pictures prior to the outbreak of World War II, celebrates his 29th anniversary with Columbia this month. He is currently associate producer on Gerald Ayres' "Dealer," which recently completed production for Columbia.

HOWARD FABRICK, Columbia

Pictures' Industrial Relations Director, has been appointed Chairman of the Labor Law Committee of the Beverly Hills Bar Association for 1971. Serving as co-vice-chairmen are Billy Hunt of Mitchell, Silberberg and Knupp, and Tony Sauber, of the Writers Guild.

Epic recording combo, Spirit, has a rather unique claim to fame in addition to their talent. They are the only father and son rock group in the business. Dad "Cass" Cassidy is the drummer and son Jay plays lead guitar. Their new album is entitled simply "Spirit."

A FEW SCREEN GEMS: Veteran character actor Harvey Lembeck and his son, Michael, appeared together for the first time in a TV series when they co-guested in a segment of "The Partridge Family" recently.

AGNES MOOREHEAD, co-star of "Bewitched," has been named "Outstanding Star of 1970" by the Headliners Club of Texas, whose membership is composed of top newspapers in the Panhandle State. Miss Moorehead receives her award when she attends the group's annual awards dinner in Austin on February 6.

STU HAGMANN, award-winning commercial director, returns to EUE-Screen Gems under an exclusive contract for TV commercials after completion of his latest film, "Speed is of



Among those enjoying the recent "Aristocrats" Premiere in Westwood were Mrs. Clark Gable of Encino and her son John

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THE MAC MURRAY FAMILY of Brentwood attended the premiere of Disney's "Aristocrats" held at the Village Theatre in Westwood. (L to R) Laurie, Mrs. Mac Murray, Mr. Mac Murray, Snow White and Katie.

the Essence"

Screen Gems and ABC-TV hosted 35 members of the TV press recently in Old Tucson (Arizona) for a special taping of "The Johnny Cash Show." The Old Tucson setting marks the first time the Cash show has originated from anywhere but Nashville's Grand Ole Opry House. Guests appearing were Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, Walter Brennan, Chill Wills, Andy Devine, Edgar Buchanan and Judy Lynn. Well shot my mouth!

ED GLASS, who only recently tied the marital knot and received a promotion as head of the Columbia Pictures Communications department, is already in fear of losing both wife and

job, temporarily at least. He received his draft notice last month.

COUNTRY JOE McDONALD will release his first solo LP since breaking with the Fish last Spring. Titled "Hang On, It's Coming" for Vanguard, album is composed of all original material.

THE BEACHBOYS recently returned from their 7th successful European tour with a new group in town called The Flame. A top South African rock band, The Flame now call the US home and will record for The Beachboys' label, Brother Records.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY to you, too. See you next month.

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Barbara Werle

Flight To TV Stardom

Lost luggage, late planes and fog may try the patience of more than a few air travelers, but actress Barbara Werle isn't one of them.

As co-star of the new NCB-TV-Universal series "San Francisco International Airport", which airs Wednesday evenings at 10 p.m., Barbara has no trouble keeping track of her luggage. Since becoming girl Friday to Lloyd Bridges, who portrays the airport's manager, Barbara has made a close-up study of airport operations, and says she has nothing but praise for the entire aviation industry.

"You take so many services for granted when you travel by air," says Barbara, a green-eyed beauty who got her start in show business by winning a dance contest. "What is really amazing is that things go as smoothly as they do. It really is quite a problem to move people and their belongings safely from one airport to another. Since we started filming "San Francisco International Airport" I've learned a lot about flying and believe me, I appreciate the problem a lot more now," she says.

Barbara is the first to admit she is as appreciative of her part in the new series as she's appreciative of the problems of flight. This is her first assignment as a regular in a series, and she's brimming with excitement.

She started her career as a secretary in Mt. Vernon, N.Y., but discovered she loved dancing more than sitting at a typewriter ("I probably could have typed better with my feet").

Barbara and her dance partner entered the Harvest Moon Ball dance contest at New York's Roseland ballroom on a whim and won, leading to appearances on the Ed Sullivan Show, followed by a national tour.

She eventually soured on the life of a dancer and decided to try an acting career. With characteristic enthusiasm she tackled the problem of inexperience, investing her savings in the finest diction,

voice, and drama coaching she could find.

The hard work paid off. Bit parts led to larger roles until eventually she landed a starring role in Cinerama's "Battle of the Bulge."

She has since starred in such motion pictures as Cinerama's "Krakatoa East of

is what Barbara consistently strives for. As a dancer, singer, actress, and as a person she's not content with standing still. Continually in motion, her day is jammed with appointments... singing lessons, drama lessons, ballet, opera diction lessons... all geared to the goal



PRETTY BARBARA WERLE rocketed from real-life secretary to fictional "Girl Friday" as co-star of NCB's TV series, "S.F. International Airport", starring Lloyd Bridges. ***

Java" and has guest-starred on such programs as Name of the Game, the Virginian (six times) and others. Now, in "San Francisco International" she finds herself back at the typewriter. "Some progress," she jokes.

Progress, and above all improvement,

of sharpening her skills.

Barbara credits a great deal of her success to her personal philosophy of "self-realization." She feels it has provided her with the introspection necessary to find her niche in life. She is a keen student of all religions and does

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considerable reading and attends many lectures on the subject.

Although she's very serious-minded about her career and philosophy Barbara is fun to be around. She's naturally glib and her lighthearted view of the world and her off-beat sense of humor about herself are the keys to her charm.

There's no sense in trying to predict what Barbara will do next. Her oblique approach to life might seem a bit kooky, but for her it works out fine.

Barbara's already on a smooth flight to success and her role in "San Francisco International Airport" can only lead to a higher altitude. ***

DISCourse
Continued from 14

L.A., New York, San Francisco and Toronto.

Jimmy Webb, who is one of the best song writers of our time, decided to perform his own material. As you might remember, Richard Harris recorded a couple of albums of Webb's songs. Now Webb has his own release, "Jimmy Webb," on Warners. He will have his premier performance at the Troubadour.

Al Kooper is back in town playing at a new club in Hollywood, The Bitter End. Kooper has been working on his 2nd solo album and producing some new groups on the side.

Buddy Miles will be starting off on his European tour in February, as will Ike and Tina Turner. Europe is going to be the place for concerts this Spring.

Rod Stewart can't have enough said about his albums, "Rod Stewart" and "Gasoline Alley." Stewart is cutting another at Mercury. Watch for it. He should be in L.A. around February or March.

Canned Heat's new release with John Lee Hooker is titled "Hooker and Heat." Better get your boogie shoes on!

Gator Creek is a hot new group pushed up the ladder by Mercury. Their first release is titled "Gator Creek."

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David Bowie

David Bowie is another new face who sounds quite like James Taylor. His first single was "Space Oddity." Now out is his first album, "The Man Who Sold The World."

Speaking of new albums, Spirit and Laura Nyro both released their best yet.

Spirit's new release titled, "Twelve Dreams Of Dr. Sardonicus," is enclosed by a cover with some of the best album photography I have ever seen. Intricate, yet simple harmonies highlight such songs as "Nature's Way," "Love Has Found A Way" and "When I Touch You." Please buy it tomorrow.

Laura Nyro's new album "Christmas And The Beads of Sweat" is a sensitive, tasteful album. Miles Davis' influence is highly noticeable.

* * *

Mimi Farina has a bit part in the new film "Fools." She's in the beginning strumming the ol' guitar and singing a few notes.

* * *

Paul McCartney still hasn't made a decision on the Boston College concert. They even offered to name an art center after him ... built with the proceeds from the concert.

* * *

AROUND TOWN

TROUBADOUR Feb. 2-7 Tom Rush & Brisley Schwartz

Feb. 16-21 Phil Ochs

ASHGROVE

Well they didn't know a month in advance

DONTES

Feb. 5-6 Gabor Szabo

FORUM

Feb. 13 Smokey Robinson

Feb. 24 Grand Funk Railroad

SANTA MONICA CIVIC

Feb. 20 The Beach Boys

Feb. 27 Iron Butterfly



"A lot of songs have a very sad feeling"

Man About Town

By Lee Graham

As we enter the second month of the new year, the holidays fade into the past leaving fine memories worth keeping.

Certainly the most charming and unusual gathering, and one which will be hard for hostesses to measure up to the rest of the year, was the Twelfth Night party given by Edana Romney. The gracious lady observed the date in England and continued when she moved here five years ago. On this occasion, in keeping with the ancient tradition, only close friends one wants to see the rest of the year are invited. After the last guest has gone, decorations are taken down and the bad luck of the past year swept out. Also traditional, English puddings prepared with a sixteenth century recipe, flaming with brandy, are rung in with a bell while the guests applaud. Buried in two tasting puddings are separate crowns and the man and woman who find them are named King and Queen. Mayor Sam Yorty and Jarma Bensinger were crowned by British Consul General Andrew Franklin following his reading of a beautiful English sonnet and toast to the hostess. This was preceded by an enlightening and witty speech giving the history of Twelfth Night by Delmer

ACTRESS CHANIN HALE, the almost-constant companion of Man-About-Town Lee Graham.



Daves.

Rupert Allan sat on a candle and burned his coattail, which is not traditional at all. Two former friends, Zsa Zsa Gabor and Pamela Mason avoided each other after their recent hair pulling bout. Twelfth Night isn't the time for a return match.

The evening was not only fun, but rich in friendship extended by the lovely hostess. A few of those sharing this happy feeling were Penni and Richard Crenna, Doris Stein, Ann and Lloyd Hand, Joan Cohn Harvey, new parents Arlene (Dahl) and Rounsville Schaum, Sylvia and Irving Wallace, Tichi (Wilkerson) and Bill Miles, Nancy Sinatra Sr. and Ross Hunter, Mal and Ray Milland (he hasn't seen his performance in "Love Story" because he doesn't like to cry), that popular couple, Matilda and Gabriel Barnett, Anne and Dan Barton of Sherman Oaks, Marjorie DeBowie and Don Hensman, who are great fun; Margaret and William Wyler, Grace and Harold Robbins, and Vincente Minnelli.

* * *

Photographer Wally Seawell's holiday party honored his brother and sister-in-law, Joyce and John Seawell visiting from Sarasota, Fla. It was a cold, clear night and everyone admired the sprawling view from the glass walls of Wally's hillside home. They also admired his attractive hostess, Florence Horn.

Several who had planned to come had

colds or the flu, but there were still a goodly number. To name a few: Glenn Ford, Mervyn LeRoy, Marge and Howard Taylor, the John Greens (Bonnie was using a cane as a result of surgery), Ruta Lee, Marge Champion who said she'll be going out alone or with friends as Gower is in New York directing Angela Lansbury in "Rape of Pretty Belle"; and Cheryl Reventlow, separated from Barbara Hutton's son, Lance, with tv's Tarzan, Ron Ely.



VALLEYITE Actress Carole Mathews, holiday party-giver.

Carole Mathews' Christmas party served as a housewarming. The good-looking actress bought a home in Reseda in November and spent every minute getting it ready for the holidays. Guests received a surprise when Janos Prohaska, the bear on the Andy Williams show, arrived in full gorilla make-up and chased the screaming girls under the mistletoe. It was pouring rain, but that didn't stop friends from traveling to the Valley from long distances because of their fondness for Carole. A few of them — famed ice cream magnate Wil Wright; Ross Hunter, Ann Fenner, pretty and ladylike as always; Nancy Kelly, Cesar Romero, Barbara (Hale) and Bill Williams.

* * *

In the midst of the parties there were several premiers of films which hopeful producers had to release before the end of the year in order to qualify for Academy Awards. The most ambitious was "Cromwell" followed by a black-tie supper dance in the Crystal Room of the Beverly Hills. Shirley Jones and Jack Cassidy were together again after a brief misunderstanding. Fortunately, they

reconciled in time for their New Year's Eve party as those invited were wondering whether they would be greeted by Jack, Shirley, neither or both.

* * *

In Texas they do things in a big way. This was never more in evidence than at the premiere of "Brewster McCloud" at the Houston Astrodome which, for the evening, became the world's largest drive-in theatre. Fifteen years ago Mike Todd launched "Around The World in 80 Days" in Madison Square Garden, but only 15,000 attended as compared to 24,000 who mobbed the giant auditorium in Texas.

"Brewster McCloud" was shot in Houston last summer and marks director Robert Altman's first film since "M*A*S*H." He was having problems in Vancouver where he is shooting "Presbyterian Church Wager" and was unable to make the premiere.

Bearded producer Lou Adler and bearded composer John Phillips (with pregnant Genevieve Waite) and it along with the film's actors Bud Cort, Margaret Hamilton, and Michael Murphy. Feminine lead Sally Kellerman alighted from the limousine driven inside the Astrodome, wearing a dress cut down to THERE, waving a single rose and gushing "Hello, adoring fans." Just like old Hollywood!



HAPPY DUO — Herb Solow, Vice president in charge of Production, MGM chats with actress Sally Kellerman,

There were constant activities and interviews. Several hundred members of the news media were flown in from all over the country at MGM's expense for the three day festivities. Junkets of this nature are almost as rare today as a Toby Wing Film Festival.

* * *

Memo to Zsa Zsa Gabor and Jack Lemmon: Please pick up the resolutions at City Hall which were awarded to you for your contributions to show business by Councilman Gilbert Lindsay. He'd like to get his desk cleaned out. In addition to Zsa Zsa's other talents, she's also a wonderful housekeeper. She once told me "Effry time I get a divorce I keep the house."

* * *



Photo: O'Neill

Miss Raquel Welch

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